# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3821
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000
HIV/AIDS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether India participated in the XIIIth International Conference on HIV/AIDS, in Durban from 9th to 14th July, 2000;

(b) if so, the details the issues discussed in the Conference and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereon?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) Yes, Sir. India was represented by an official delegation led by the Hon`ble Minister ofState for Health and Family Welfare, Prof. Rita Verma.

(b) The main theme of the conference was `Break the Silence` which focused on obstacles toglobal efforts to turn the tide of the HIV epidemic. These include complacency, ignorance and denial which are still common in many countries, inequities in access to care, tardiness in the development of HIV vaccines and vaginal microbicides, lack of commitment in providing resources for research, education and public health interventions.

(c) The Government has launched the National AIDS Control Programme Phase -II to undertake HIV/AIDS prevention and control activities and the above issues are addressed within the programme.